Case Report

Summary

Print Date/Time: 02/10/2022 09:48
Login ID: paysonaz\kstevens
Case Number: 2021-00005076

PAYSON POLICE DEPARTMENT
ORI Number: AZ0040600

Case

Case Number: 2021-00005076
Location: 209 N DURANGO CT
PAYSON, AZ (Arizona) 85541
Reporting Officer ID: 0604 - Bathke

Incident Type: Domestic
Occurred From: 05/09/2021 18:43
Occurred Thru: 05/09/2021 18:43
Disposition: Cleared by Arrest-Adult
Disposition Date: 05/09/2021
Reported Date: 05/09/2021 18:43 Sunday

Offenses

No.	Group/ORI	Crime Code	Statute	Description	Counts
1	State	90Z	13-3601A	Domestic Violence	1
2	State	13A	13-1204A2	Aggravated Assault with Deadly Weapon or Dangerous Instrument	1

Subjects

Type	No.	Name	Address	Phone	Race	Sex	DOB/Age
Contacted	1	WEYAND, CAROL SUE				Female	
Contacted	2	ANDREWS, SCOTT WILSON			White	Male	
Suspect	1	Surgent, Scott Adam	209 N DURANGO CT PAYSON, AZ (Arizona) 85541		White	Male	
Victim	1	Cousland, Beth Anne	[redacted]		White	Female	

Arrests

Arrest No.	Name	Address	Date/Time	Type	Age
16358 A	Surgent, Scott Adam	209 N DURANGO CT PAYSON, AZ (Arizona) 85541	05/09/2021 22:02	Felony	

Property

Date	Code	Type	Make	Model	Description	Tag No.	Item No.
05/10/2021	Safekeeping-Known Owner Evidence	Guns	Rossi, Amadeo, & Co. BZ		#604-3 - ROSSI .22 LR REVOLVER	2021-00005076	3
05/10/2021	Safekeeping-Known Owner Evidence	Guns	Charco/Charter Arms Corp. US		#604-2 - CHARTER ARMSBULLDOG PUG .44 SPL revolver	2021-00005076	2
05/10/2021	Safekeeping-Known Owner Evidence	Guns	Rossi, Amadeo, & Co. BZ		#604-1 - BrazTeck Int. .357 Magnum revolver	2021-00005076	1

Vehicles

No.	Role	Vehicle Type	Year	Make	Model	Color	License Plate	State

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Routing:

- ☐ Probation
- ☐ Commander
- ☐ Fire Marshal
- ☐ AZ Department of Liquor
- ☐ Other
- ☐ ACO
- ☐ ADOT
- ☐ Traffic Accident Research
- ☐ Tonto Apache Tribal Court
- ☐ Investigations Division
- ☐ Gila County Attorney
- ☐ Town Attorney
- ☐ Chief
- ☐ GCSO
- ☐ Special Enforcement Unit
- ☐ File

Original report by Officer K. Bathke #604
2021-5076

Attachments:

- Arrest/Booking Report
- Release Questionnaire
- Property for Safekeeping Receipt
- Property Invoice
- Handwritten Note
- In Custody Status
- Victims' Rights Form #A456893
- Miscellaneous Teletypes

Narrative:

On 05/09/2021 at approximately 1843 hours, Scott Andrews (Mr. Andrews) contacted the Payson Police Department Communication Center to report that his sister, Beth Cousland, had reported to their mother, Carol Weyand, that her husband Scott Surgent (Scott) had made suicidal/homicidal letters and threatened her with a gun.

I contacted Mr. Andrews by phone who advised that he lived in Texas. According to Mr. Andrews, Beth had called Carol for Mother's Day and Beth stated to Carol that Scott had on-going mental health issues and that Beth had found letters written by Scott that included statements of self-harm and harm to Beth. Additionally, Mr. Andrews stated that at one point Scott had reportedly pointed a gun at Beth. Mr. Andrews told me that he did not have a good relationship with Beth, and he stated that the phone call between Carol and Beth was reportedly on speaker phone and Carol's grandson heard the conversation. Mr. Andrews advised that he wasn't sure he believed Beth's statements, but he was nonetheless concerned for her safety.

After speaking with Mr. Andrews, I called Carol who lives in Virginia. I asked Carol what happened, and Carol told me that Beth had called her earlier today. Carol stated that she had the phone on speaker and that her adult grandson from Germany was also listening to the call. Carol advised of an on-going issue between her and Scott/Beth over a house that Carol and Beth co-owned in Maryland. According to Carol, Scott wanted part ownership of the house. I asked Carol about what Beth had said with regards to Scott and a gun, and Carol told me that Beth stated that she had woken up to Scott with a gun to her head. Carol also mentioned that Beth had found a murder/suicide note written by Scott.

According to Carol, Beth used marijuana and Carol stated that per her adult grandson, Beth sounded like she might have been "addicted" to something when she called. Carol also told me that Beth had an [redacted].

After speaking with Carol, Officer M. Farren (#624) and I made contact with Beth and Scott at their residence located at [redacted]. We separated Beth and Scott. I spoke with Beth outside, while Officer Farren remained with Scott.

We initially went outside the back door; however, Beth stated that the windows were opened and she was concerned that Scott would hear her. Beth made several statements indicative of Scott being controlling of her by stating that he would frequently check on her if she went out to smoke or wanted to know who she was contacting if she was on the phone, and overall he would watch her all the time.

As I spoke with Beth, Beth informed me that Scott had [redacted] but that he refused to get treatment. She stated that they have been married for 18 years and lived together at their current residence for approximately one year. She told me that Scott had been suicidal/depressed and that it was an on-going issue as well. Beth said that Scott had been suicidal/depressed as recent as a day or two ago. Beth did not get specific on how or what Scott had said.

I asked Beth about the firearm and Beth told me that over the course of approximately six months, Scott had pointed a firearm (handgun) at her approximately eight times. She initially stated that the most recent occurrence happened approximately two to three weeks prior and she advised that she had been taking a nap on the couch in the living room when she awoke to Scott standing over her with a handgun pointed at her abdomen/torso. Beth described the firearm as a dark (black/gray) colored handgun. She told me that she thought Scott had pointed different guns at her during the different incidents. Beth stated that she did not know where the gun(s) were located within the residence.

When asked later about the most recent gun incident, Beth told me that her sense of time was off, but stated that it was a couple of months ago. I asked Beth if she was currently concerned for her safety and she told me that she was past that point and that she had become used to it.

I questioned Beth about the letters and she told me that she had located three notes written by Scott. She stated the last note(s) she found were approximately two months ago. I asked her about the content of the notes and she was not very descriptive/detailed about the notes, but she stated that they detailed Scott's on-going depression and thoughts of self-harm and harm to others. Beth told me that she was not into "snooping" and that she did not know where the letters were located.

I informed Beth that I would need to confront Scott on the issues and Beth was concerned because she stated that she was not able to support herself due to her health issues and that she did not have a place to stay. I informed Beth that there were resources available to her to include the local domestic violence shelter.

After speaking with Beth, I talked to Scott. I advised Scott that the real reason for our contact was due to our concern for his mental wellbeing. Scott said that he and Beth were having issues, but that they were working on things. He stated that he's burned out from work at Arizona State University, he's tired, and he's been down. Scott admitted that he had thoughts of suicide, but that he has never acted on the thoughts. He did, however, state that at one point several years ago he had an unloaded .22 in his hand as he thought about suicide.

I questioned Scott about his letter writing and Scott told me that he had written letters to get his feelings out. I asked Scott about any thoughts of causing harm to others and he stated no and that he had no intentions of harming Beth.

I asked Scott about firearms and Scott told me of three firearms in his residence. I asked Scott if he ever pointed any of the firearms at Beth and he stated "no, absolutely not." I confronted Scott on what Beth had told me and informed him that I was asking not because Beth was afraid of Scott, but that because she was concerned for him. I told him to be honest with me and Scott hesitated before changing the topic. Scott stated that he's going through a lot with his mother's health and a health scare with his father the prior year. He said that he's tired with work and that he's reached his ceiling at work.

I asked Scott again if he had pointed a firearm at Beth, and he seemed hesitant before stating that he "didn't think" he ever pointed a gun at her and that he didn't remember. He said he kept the firearms unloaded in a bin where they are not quickly accessible. I questioned Scott about his uncertainty of pointing a firearm at Beth and stated to him that if he couldn't remember pointing a gun at her that there was at least the possibility he pointed a gun at her to which Scott responded that there was a "point one percent possibility."

I questioned Scott if he ever gets so upset or depressed that he blacks out and he stated no. When asked about any drug use to include marijuana due to an odor at the residence, Scott denied using drugs other than marijuana, and he stated that he only used marijuana a few times. He advised that Beth used marijuana.

When asked if Beth had a reason to lie, Scott stated no and that she was an honest individual.

Scott informed us where his firearms were located in the residence and he gave Officer Farren permission to go inside and locate them.

I asked Scott more about the letters he had written and Scott said that he wrote the letters when he was really depressed. I asked Scott if he would allow us to look at the letters and Scott later gave Officer Farren permission to get the letters. Scott told me that one letter was particularly harsh and that it was about an incident that occurred when he was in his twenties. Scott told me that he had the opportunity to hurt someone very badly and that he had thought about hurting that person for approximately an hour,

but that he didn't hurt that person. I asked Scott who the person was, and he stated that it was not Beth and that it was a girl that he had a short-term relationship with.

Officer Farren provided me with two letters that he located. The letters were hand written and one was dated "12-11-20" and the other was dated "3-15-21." Through reading the letters, neither of the letters were the one that Scott had referenced as wanting to cause harm to someone else; however, the letters that were located detailed Scott's despair and his hatred towards himself. The letters were submitted with my report.

I had requested that Community Bridges Inc. (CBI) have a crisis team respond to speak with and evaluate Scott. CBI responded and evaluated Scott. Per Sammy with CBI, the plan was to set Scott up with out-patient treatment.

Based on Scott's hesitance and/or in-ability to be able to clearly remember whether or not he pointed a firearm at Beth and him stating that there was a possibility that it could have occurred no matter if it was a "point one percent" possibility, I believed that Scott had probably pointed a firearm at Beth on at least one occasion. Additionally, Scott's and Beth's stories were fairly similar. At no point did Beth appear to be deceptive to me, and her other statements about the situation to include finding the letters were supported by Scott's own admission and the actual physical letters. Scott had even told me that Beth would have no reason to lie.

At approximately 2202 hours, I placed Scott under arrest for aggravated assault per domestic violence.

I provided Beth with Victims' Rights Form # A456893.

I took possession of Scott's three firearms that were in the kitchen pantry inside of a plastic bin. In total, there were three firearms which included a BrazTeck Int. (Taurus) .357 magnum revolver (serial #SF746146) which had a silver finish and black nylon case (Item #604-1), a Charco Inc. .44 spl revolver (serial #1128092) with a black finish and black nylon case (Item #604-2), and an Interarms .22 LR revolver (serial #A885220) with a black leather case (Item #604-3). I later impounded the items as evidence/seized/safekeeping at the Payson Police Department, and I emailed the Gila County Attorney's Office requesting that a petition to hold the firearms be filed if the firearms are not kept as evidence due to the domestic violence offense and/or Scott being a danger to self/others. Photographs of the firearms were later uploaded to evidence.com.

I transported Scott to the Gila County Payson Jail where he was booked for aggravated assault per domestic violence (ARS 13-1204A2/13-3601A). While at the jail, I completed an In-Custody request for Scott to be evaluated.

After booking Scott into jail and based on Scott advising me that he worked at Arizona State University, I contacted the Arizona State University Police Department and I

requested they complete an information report on the incident. The reason I did this was because ASU has counseling services available to its students, staff, and faculty, and filing an information report with ASU PD is another way to facilitate getting Scott the mental health treatment that he needs. I spoke with Lieutenant D. Melton (#363) reference ASUPD DR #2021-38513.

This concluded my involvement in this matter. The recordings from my department issued body-worn camera were later uploaded to evidence.com.

End of narrative.

Officer K. Bathke #604

KB/sh 5/10/2021